Office of Economic Development

EDAB Mesa Business Accelerator Subcommittee MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 18, 2011 10:00 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Shope, Chair

Shea Joachim

Mitzi Montoya

Jeff Pitcher

Bob Pothier

Peter Sterling

GUEST

Todd Hardy

1. Chair's Call To Order

Chair Steve Shope called the meeting of the EDAB Mesa Business Accelerator Subcommittee to order at 10:00 AM.

2. Approval of July 5th Meeting Minutes

Jeff Pitcher moved that the minutes from July 5th, 2011 be approved with MOTION: one clarification that Mr. Crockett is not the chair of this subcommittee.

SECOND:

Peter Sterling

DECISION: Passed unanimously

3. General Discussion on Mesa Business Accelerator

Chair Shope presented the concept of the "Mesa Small Business Cloud" and discussed the role of the Mesa Business Accelerator within the "cloud."

Shea Joachim commented that the "cloud" concept was an excellent way to depict the services and resources available to all Mesa businesses including those physically located within the proposed Accelerator.

Chair Shope mentioned that he and Shea Joachim were able to tour the Technology Center on the ASU Polytechnic campus. Chair Shope commented that the building is in excellent shape and could be a great home for the Accelerator.

Dr. Montoya commented that programming of the building is starting for the upcoming semester, but she is willing to discuss housing the Accelerator within the building if it works.

Mr. Hardy added that it would be very helpful if ASU was provided some detail regarding the amount of space the Accelerator may need to begin operating.

Shea Joachim committed to reviewing the Accelerator's business plan and coming up with a space plan, which will be provided to Mr. Hardy.

The committee discussed the types of services that the Accelerator would provide. The services discussed included: accounting and legal mentoring; SBIR/STTR grant writing assistance; and ASU internships.

The committee also discussed the process by which a firm is admitted into the Accelerator. Chair Shope proposed the Accelerator have a selection committee that reviews potential tenants for their fit with the goals & objectives of the Accelerator.

4. Meeting Frequency

It was agreed to schedule the next meeting on Monday, August 8th at 12:00 pm.

5. Adjournment

Chair Shope adjourned the meeting at 11:15 P.M.

Submitted By:

William J. Jabjaniak

Economic Development Department Director

(Prepared by Shea Joachim)